

House of Representatives

File No. 730

General Assembly

February Session, 2014

(Reprint of File Nos. 343 and 670)

Substitute House Bill No. 5290 As Amended by House Amendment Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner May 1, 2014

AN ACT REVISING MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective from passage) No motor vehicle that is
- 2 engaged in taxicab service shall be registered by the commissioner if
- 3 such motor vehicle is older than ten model years old. Notwithstanding
- 4 any regulation adopted pursuant to section 13b-96 of the general
- 5 statutes, any such motor vehicle that is validly registered and will be
- 6 older than ten model years old during such registration period may
- 7 continue taxicab service until the expiration date of its current
- 8 registration, after which such registration shall not be renewed.
- 9 Sec. 2. Section 14-1 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is
- 10 amended by adding subdivision (103) as follows (Effective from
- 11 passage):
- 12 (NEW) (103) "Public passenger endorsement" means an
- 13 endorsement issued to an individual, which authorizes such
- 14 individual to transport passengers, including, but not limited to,
- passengers who are students in accordance with subsection (b) or (c) of

- 16 section 14-36a.
- 17 Sec. 3. Subsection (b) of section 14-12g of the general statutes is
- 18 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July
- 19 1, 2014):
- 20 (b) If a registered owner to whom notice of suspension was issued 21 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section does not contest the 22 determination that he or she has failed to maintain mandatory 23 security, the commissioner may enter into a consent agreement with 24 the owner, provided the owner presents satisfactory evidence of 25 mandatory security and pays a civil penalty of two hundred dollars. 26 The consent agreement shall provide that the registration of the motor 27 vehicle shall not be suspended, or that any suspension imposed 28 previously, pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, shall be 29 rescinded, unless (1) the commissioner determines that on or after the 30 effective date of the consent agreement the owner failed to 31 continuously maintain the required security, and (2) the owner cannot 32 establish to the satisfaction of the commissioner that the owner 33 continuously maintained the required security after said effective date. 34 A registered owner who presents satisfactory evidence of mandatory 35 security and pays such civil penalty shall be deemed to have waived 36 the opportunity to contest the determination that such owner has 37 failed to maintain the mandatory security, whether or not such owner 38 has signed the consent agreement contemporaneously with the 39 payment of such penalty. Thereafter, all terms and conditions of such 40 consent agreement shall apply to such owner. Such consent agreement 41 shall not operate to prevent the commissioner from cancelling, 42 suspending or revoking a registration pursuant to any other provision 43 of the general statutes.
- Sec. 4. Subsection (b) of section 14-36 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 47 (b) (1) A person eighteen years of age or older who does not hold a

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48 motor vehicle operator's license may not operate a motor vehicle on 49 the public highways of the state for the purpose of instruction until 50 such person has applied for and obtained an adult instruction permit 51 from the commissioner. Such person shall not be eligible for an adult 52 instruction permit if such person has had a motor vehicle operator's 53 license or privilege suspended or revoked. An adult instruction permit 54 shall entitle the holder, while such holder has the permit in his or her 55 immediate possession, to operate a motor vehicle on the public 56 highways, provided such holder is under the instruction of, and 57 accompanied by, a person who holds an instructor's license issued 58 under the provisions of section 14-73, as amended by this act, or a 59 person twenty years of age or older who has been licensed to operate, 60 for at least four years preceding the instruction, a motor vehicle of the 61 same class as the motor vehicle being operated and who has not had 62 his or her motor vehicle operator's license suspended by the 63 commissioner during the four-year period preceding the instruction. 64 The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall not issue a motor vehicle 65 operator's license to any person holding an adult instruction permit 66 who has held such permit for less than ninety days unless such person 67 (A) is a member of the armed forces on active duty outside the state, or 68 (B) has previously held a [Connecticut] motor vehicle operator's 69 license. (2) A person holding a valid out-of-state motor vehicle 70 operator's license may operate a motor vehicle for a period of thirty 71 days following such person's establishment of residence in 72 Connecticut, if the motor vehicle is of the same class as that for which 73 his or her out-of-state motor vehicle operator's license was issued. (3) 74 No person may cause or permit the operation of a motor vehicle by a 75 person under sixteen years of age.

- Sec. 5. Subdivision (3) of subsection (a) of section 14-36g of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 79 (3) No such person shall operate any motor vehicle for which a 80 public passenger [transportation permit] <u>endorsement, as defined in</u> 81 <u>section 14-1, as amended by this act,</u> is required in accordance with the

provisions of section 14-44, as amended by this act, or a vanpool vehicle, as defined in section 14-1, as amended by this act;

Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 14-37a of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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(b) The commissioner may, in the commissioner's discretion upon a showing of significant hardship, grant each such application that is submitted in proper form and contains such information and attestation by the applicant as the commissioner may require. With respect to an application for an education permit, an applicant shall also be required to submit a schedule of the time and location of all classes or other required educational activities attended by such applicant. Such schedule shall be attested to by the registrar of such educational institution. In determining whether to grant such application, the commissioner may also consider the driving record of the applicant and shall ascertain that the suspension is a final order that is not under appeal pursuant to section 4-183. A special operator's permit shall not be issued pursuant to this section to any person for the operation of a motor vehicle for which a public passenger [transportation permit] endorsement, as defined in section 14-1, as amended by this act, or commercial driver's license is required or to any person whose operator's license has been suspended previously pursuant to section 14-227a or 14-227b. A special operator's permit shall not be issued pursuant to this section to any person whose operator's license has been suspended pursuant to subparagraph (C) of subdivision (1) of subsection (i) of section 14-227b for refusing to submit to a blood, breath or urine test or analysis until such operator's license has been under suspension for a period of not less than ninety days. A person shall not be ineligible to be issued a special operator's permit under this section solely on the basis of being convicted of two violations of section 14-227a unless such second conviction is for a violation committed after a prior conviction.

Sec. 7. Subsection (f) of section 14-41 of the 2014 supplement to the

general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

- 117 (f) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 1-3a, if the expiration 118 date of any motor vehicle operator's license or any public passenger 119 [transportation permit] endorsement, as defined in section 14-1, as 120 amended by this act, falls on any day when offices of the commissioner 121 are closed for business or are open for less than a full business day, the 122 license or permit shall be deemed valid until midnight of the next day 123 on which offices of the commissioner are open for a full day of 124 business.
- Sec. 8. Section 14-42 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
- (a) An application for an operator's license or identity card shall be made on forms furnished by the commissioner. The applications shall be in such form and contain such provisions and information as the commissioner may determine.
- 131 (b) [The application for an operator's license and the application for 132 an identity card shall include the opportunity for the applicant] The 133 commissioner shall require any person applying for an operator's 134 license or identity card to indicate whether such person consents or 135 declines to make an anatomical gift through inclusion in the state 136 donor registry maintained pursuant to section 14-42a. An operator's 137 license issued to a person who has authorized inclusion on such donor 138 registry shall have a donor symbol imprinted on such license or 139 identity card.
- Sec. 9. Subsection (d) of section 14-44 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 143 (d) Upon the arrest of any person who holds an operator's license 144 bearing a [school] <u>public passenger</u> endorsement, as defined in section 145 <u>14-1</u>, as amended by this act, and who is charged with a felony or

violation of section 53a-73a, the arresting officer or department, within forty-eight hours, shall cause a report of such arrest to be made to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles. The report shall be made on a form approved by said commissioner containing such information as the commissioner prescribes. The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may adopt regulations, in accordance with chapter 54, to implement the

provisions of this subsection.

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Sec. 10. Subsection (g) of section 14-44e of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2015):

(g) The commissioner may issue a commercial driver's instruction permit to any person who holds a valid operator's license. [Said] Such permit may be issued for a period not exceeding [six months] one hundred eighty days, and may be reissued or renewed [, until June 30, 2011, for periods for one additional period not exceeding [six months. On and after July 1, 2011, only one renewal or reissuance may be granted within a two-year period one hundred eighty days, provided the reissuance or renewal of such permit occurs within a two-year period from its initial issuance. Any holder of a commercial driver's instruction permit who has not obtained a commercial driver's license on or before the expiration date of such reissued or renewed permit shall be required to retake the commercial driver's license knowledge test and any applicable endorsement knowledge tests. The holder of a commercial driver's instruction permit may, unless otherwise disqualified or suspended, drive a commercial motor vehicle if such holder is accompanied by the holder of a commercial driver's license of the appropriate class and bearing endorsements for the type of vehicle being driven who occupies a seat beside the individual for the purpose of giving instruction in driving the commercial motor vehicle. The commissioner shall not administer a commercial driver's license driving skills test to any holder of a commercial driver's instruction permit unless such person has held such permit for a minimum period of fourteen days.

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Sec. 11. Section 14-44e of the general statutes is amended by adding subsection (h) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

(NEW) (h) The commissioner shall deny or disqualify for a period of sixty days a commercial driver's instruction permit or commercial driver's license if it is determined that an applicant or holder has provided false information on any certification the applicant or holder is required to give relative to such permit or license application. If an applicant or holder is suspected of fraud related to the issuance of a commercial driver's instruction permit or commercial driver's license, such applicant or holder shall be required to schedule the commercial driver's license knowledge test and driving skills test not later than thirty days after notification by the commissioner of the suspected fraud. Failure to schedule both such tests or failure to pass both such tests shall result in disqualification of such permit or license and the applicant or holder shall be required to reapply for the permit or license. Any applicant or holder convicted of fraud related to the issuance of a commercial driver's instruction permit or commercial driver's license shall have such applicant's or holder's permit or license disqualified for one year from the date of conviction and shall be required to retake such tests.

- Sec. 12. Subsections (a) and (b) of section 14-44h of the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
 - (a) Each commercial driver's license shall be renewed quadrennially on the date of the operator's birthday. [On and after September 1, 2005, each applicant shall, at the time of the first renewal such commercial driver's license, provide the names of all states in which the applicant ever has been issued a motor vehicle operator's license.] If the applicant has held a license in another state at any time during the preceding ten years, the commissioner shall request the driving history record or records from the state or states in which the applicant has been licensed. If the commissioner receives a request for a driving history record from another state regarding the holder of a commercial

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212 driver's license, the commissioner shall provide such record within

- 213 thirty days, as required by the provisions of 49 CFR 384.206, as
- amended.
- 215 (b) A commercial driver's license shall expire within a period not
- 216 exceeding four years following the date of the operator's next birthday.
- 217 The fee for such original license shall be [computed at the rate of]
- seventeen dollars and fifty cents per year. [or any part thereof.] Any
- 219 previously licensed operator who fails to renew a commercial driver's
- license in accordance with this subsection shall be charged a late fee of
- twenty-five dollars upon renewal of such commercial driver's license.
- Sec. 13. Subsection (d) of section 14-50 of the 2014 supplement to the
- 223 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
- 224 thereof (*Effective January 1, 2015*):
- 225 [(d) Upon request by the chief of any regular fire department or
- 226 volunteer fire company operating in the state of Connecticut, the
- commissioner shall waive the operator's examination fee in the case of
- 228 any member of any such fire department or company who applies for
- 229 a class 1 operator's license as provided in section 14-36a. The applicant
- 230 for such license shall satisfy all prerequisites for the issuance of a class
- 231 1 license.]
- 232 (d) The commissioner may adopt procedures for issuing licenses on
- 233 <u>an expedited basis and may charge a fee of not more than seventy-five</u>
- 234 <u>dollars for such expedited service.</u>
- Sec. 14. Subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 14-52 of the
- 236 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
- 237 thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):
- 238 (4) Each such bond required under subdivisions (1) to (3), inclusive,
- of this subsection shall be conditioned upon the applicant or licensee
- 240 complying with the provisions of any state or federal law or regulation
- relating to the conduct of such business and provided as indemnity for
- any loss sustained by any [person] <u>customer</u> by reason of any acts of

243 the licensee constituting grounds for suspension or revocation of the 244 license or such licensee going out of business. Each cash bond shall be 245 deposited with the commissioner and each surety bond shall be 246 executed in the name of the state of Connecticut for the benefit of any 247 aggrieved [party] customer, but the penalty of the bond shall not be 248 invoked except upon order of the commissioner after a hearing held 249 before said commissioner in accordance with the provisions of chapter 250 54. For purposes of this subdivision, "customer" does not include (A) 251 any person, firm or corporation that finances a licensed dealer's motor 252 vehicle inventory, or (B) any licensed dealer, in such person's capacity 253 as a dealer, who buys motor vehicles from or sells motor vehicles to 254 another licensed dealer.

- Sec. 15. Section 14-52a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):
- 257 (a) The commissioner may, after notice and hearing, refuse to grant 258 or renew a license to a person, firm or corporation to engage in the 259 business of selling or repairing motor vehicles pursuant to the 260 provisions of section 14-52, as amended by this act, if the applicant for 261 or holder of such a license, or an officer or major stockholder if the 262 applicant or licensee is a firm or corporation, has been convicted of a 263 violation of any provision of laws pertaining to the business of a motor 264 vehicle dealer or repairer including a motor vehicle recycler, or of any 265 violation involving fraud, larceny or deprivation or misappropriation 266 of property, in the courts of the United States or of any state. At the 267 time of application for or renewal of such a license, each applicant or 268 licensee shall make full disclosure of any such conviction within the 269 last five years.
 - (b) The commissioner shall not, after notice and hearing, grant or renew a license to an applicant or licensee that is delinquent in the payment of sales tax in connection with a business from which it is or was obligated to remit sales tax, as reported to the commissioner by the Department of Revenue Services.

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Sec. 16. Section 14-61b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may permit any licensed motor vehicle dealer <u>or repairer</u> to maintain, in an electronic format prescribed by the commissioner, all records, documents and forms required by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Such records, documents and forms shall be produced in written format, [not later than three business days,] upon request by the department, <u>during the</u> licensee's business hours on the same day of such request.

- Sec. 17. Subsection (a) of section 14-62 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):
- 287 (a) Each sale shall be evidenced by an order properly signed by both 288 the buyer and seller, a copy of which shall be furnished to the buyer 289 when executed, and an invoice upon delivery of the motor vehicle, 290 both of which shall contain the following information: (1) Make of 291 vehicle; (2) year of model, whether sold as new or used, and on invoice 292 the identification number; (3) deposit, and (A) if the deposit is not 293 refundable, the words "No Refund of Deposit" shall appear at this 294 point, and (B) if the deposit is conditionally refundable, the words 295 "Conditional Refund of Deposit" shall appear at this point, followed by 296 a statement giving the conditions for refund, and (C) if the deposit is 297 unconditionally refundable, the words "Unconditional Refund" shall 298 appear at this point; (4) cash selling price; (5) finance charges, and (A) 299 if these charges do not include insurance, the words "No Insurance" 300 shall appear at this point, and (B) if these charges include insurance, a 301 statement shall appear at this point giving the exact type of coverage; 302 (6) allowance on motor vehicle traded in, if any, and description of the 303 same; (7) stamped or printed in a size equal to at least ten-point bold 304 type on the face of both order and invoice one of the following forms: 305 (A) "This motor vehicle not guaranteed", or (B) "This motor vehicle is 306 guaranteed", followed by a statement as to the terms of such 307 guarantee, which statement shall not apply to household furnishings

308 of any trailer; (8) if the motor vehicle is new but has been subject to use 309 by the seller or use in connection with his business as a dealer, the 310 word "demonstrator" shall be clearly displayed on the face of both 311 order and invoice; (9) any dealer conveyance fee or processing fee and a statement that such fee is not payable to the state of Connecticut 312 313 printed in at least ten-point bold type on the face of both order and 314 invoice; and (10) the dealer's legal name, address and license number. 315 For the purposes of this subdivision, "dealer conveyance fee" or 316 "processing fee" means a fee charged by a dealer to recover reasonable 317 costs for processing all documentation and performing services related 318 to the closing of a sale, including, but not limited to, the registration 319 and transfer of ownership of the motor vehicle which is the subject of 320 the sale.

Sec. 18. Subsection (a) of section 14-63 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

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- (a) The commissioner may make, alter or repeal regulations governing the administration of all statutes relating to the license and business of dealers and repairers in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54. [Each such regulation shall become effective ten days after a copy thereof has been mailed to all licensees affected thereby.]
- Sec. 19. Section 14-66b of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

331 Each owner of a wrecker registered pursuant to subsection (c) of 332 section 14-66 shall keep and maintain a record stating the following 333 information: (1) The registration number of each motor vehicle towed 334 or transported [,] and the registration number of each wrecker used to 335 tow or transport such motor vehicle; (2) the date and time the tow 336 commenced and was completed; [,] (3) the location from which the 337 disabled motor vehicle was towed and the destination of such tow; [,] 338 (4) [total mileage traveled during such tow,] the mileage of the wrecker 339 at the commencement and completion of the tow; (5) the charge for

340 tow service and any other charges incurred for services related to such 341 tow; [,] (6) the name and address of the person requesting tow service; 342 [,] and (7) any other information the commissioner deems necessary, 343 specified in regulations adopted in accordance with the provisions of 344 chapter 54. Such records shall be retained at the place of business of 345 the wrecker service for a period of two years and shall be available for 346 inspection during regular business hours by any law enforcement 347 officer or inspector designated by the Commissioner of Motor 348 Vehicles. Each owner of a wrecker shall also keep and maintain copies 349 of any written contracts with owners or lessees of property authorizing 350 the towing or removal of motor vehicles from the property of such 351 owner or lessee as provided in section 14-145, as amended by this act, 352 and such contracts shall be available for inspection by motor vehicle 353 owners, or agents of the owners, upon request. The Commissioner of 354 Motor Vehicles may permit any licensed motor vehicle dealer who 355 operates a wrecker service to maintain, in an electronic format 356 prescribed by the commissioner, all records, documents and forms 357 required by the Department of Motor Vehicles. Such records, 358 documents and forms shall be produced in written format, [not later 359 than three business days following all upon request by the department, 360 during the licensee's business hours on the same day of such request. 361 Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be deemed 362 to have committed an infraction.

Sec. 20. Subsection (e) of section 14-73 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):

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(e) The licensee shall be reexamined periodically in accordance with standards specified in regulations adopted under section 14-78. [Persons licensed for the first time as instructors shall, in the three years following their initial licensure, attend seminars, annually, in traffic safety sponsored by the Department of Motor Vehicles or take an advanced instructor course of not less than forty-five clock hours in traffic safety approved by the commissioner. Proof of compliance with the requirement for attendance at seminars or the taking of instruction

shall be made before license renewals are issued. The seminars shall be self-sustaining.

- Sec. 21. Section 14-145 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 1, 2014):
- (a) An owner or lessee of private property, or his agent, may remove or cause to be removed any motor vehicle left without authorization on such property in accordance with the provisions of this section and sections 14-145a to 14-145c, inclusive. This section shall not apply to law enforcement, fire-fighting, rescue, ambulance or emergency vehicles which are marked as such, or to the removal of motor vehicles from property leased by any governmental agency.

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(b) When such motor vehicle is towed or otherwise removed by a wrecker licensed under section 14-66, the licensee or operator of the wrecker shall notify the local police department of the tow or removal within two hours. Such notification shall be submitted, in writing, or transmitted by facsimile or electronic mail and the record of such notification shall be retained by such licensee in accordance with the provisions of section 14-66b, as amended by this act. The local police department shall, not later than forty-eight hours after receiving such notification, enter the vehicle identification number into the National Crime Information Center database and the Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing System to determine whether such motor vehicle has been reported as stolen. If such motor vehicle has been reported as stolen, the local police department shall immediately notify the department that reported the vehicle as stolen. No such licensee or operator may charge a storage fee for such motor vehicle for the time it is stored prior to [such] notification of the local police department by the licensee or operator. If such motor vehicle is not claimed within forty-eight hours, the licensee or operator of the wrecker or of the garage where such motor vehicle is stored shall immediately complete a notice of such tow, on a form prescribed by the commissioner, and mail a copy of such form by certified mail,

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the motor vehicle is not claimed by its owner within the time periods specified in subsection (e) of section 14-150, the licensee or operator of the wrecker or of the garage where such motor vehicle is stored may dispose of it in accordance with the provisions of subsection (e) and subsections (g) to (i), inclusive, of section 14-150, as amended by this act.

- (c) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, (1) specifying the circumstances under which title to any motor vehicle towed or stored, or both, under this section may be transferred to any person, firm or corporation towing or storing such vehicle, and (2) establishing the procedure whereby such person, firm or corporation may obtain title to such motor vehicle.
- [(c)] (d) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall, for a first offense, be deemed to have committed an infraction and be fined fifty dollars, and, for each subsequent offense, shall be fined not less than fifty dollars [nor] and not more than one hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or be both fined and imprisoned.
- Sec. 22. Subsections (g) to (i), inclusive, of section 14-150 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):
 - (g) The owner or keeper of any garage or other place where such motor vehicle is stored shall have a lien upon the same for such owner's or keeper's towing [and] or storage charges, or both, that result from towing or storage under this section. Unless title has already vested in the municipality pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, if the current market value of such motor vehicle as determined in good faith by such owner or keeper does not exceed one thousand five hundred dollars and such motor vehicle has been stored for a period of not less than fifteen days, such owner or keeper may, unless an application filed by the owner pursuant to subsection (e) of this section is pending and the owner of such motor vehicle has

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notified such owner or keeper that such application for hearing has been filed, sell the same for storage and towing charges owed thereon, provided a notice of intent to sell shall be sent to the commissioner, the owner and any lienholder of record of such motor vehicle, if known, five days before the sale of such vehicle. If the current market value of such motor vehicle as determined in good faith by such owner or keeper exceeds one thousand five hundred dollars and if such motor vehicle has been so stored for a period of forty-five days, such owner or keeper shall, unless an application filed by the owner pursuant to subsection (e) of this section is pending and the owner of such motor vehicle has notified such owner or keeper that such application for hearing has been filed, sell the same at public auction for cash, at such owner's or keeper's place of business, and apply the avails of such sale toward the payment of such owner's or keeper's charges and the payment of any debt or obligation incurred by the officer who placed the same in storage, provided if the last place of abode of the owner of such motor vehicle is known to or may be ascertained by such garage owner or keeper by the exercise of reasonable diligence, notice of the time and place of sale shall be given to such owner and any lienholder of record by mailing such notice to such owner [in a registered or certified letter, postage paid] by certified mail, return receipt requested, at such last usual place of abode, at least five days before the time of sale. At any public auction held pursuant to this subsection, such garage owner or keeper may set a minimum bid equal to the amount of such owner's or keeper's charges and obligations with respect to the tow and storage of the motor vehicle. If no such bid is made, such owner or keeper may sell or dispose of such vehicle.

(h) The garage owner or keeper shall report the sales price, storing, towing and repair charges, if any; buyer's name and address; identification of the vehicle and such other information as may be required in regulations which shall be adopted by the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to the commissioner within fifteen days after the sale of the motor vehicle. The proceeds of such sale, after deducting the amount due such garage owner or

keeper and all expenses connected with such sale, including the expenses of the officer who placed such motor vehicle in storage, shall be paid to the owner of such motor vehicle or such owner's legal representatives, if claimed by such owner or them at any time within one year from the date of such sale. If such balance is not claimed within said period, it shall escheat to the state.

- (i) If the owner of such motor vehicle placed in storage in accordance with the provisions of this section does not claim such motor vehicle within thirty days, the owner of such garage or other place of storage shall, within forty days of the date such motor vehicle was placed in storage with such owner, send a written notice to the commissioner, stating the make [, engine number and chassis] and vehicle identification number of such motor vehicle, the date such motor vehicle was left with such owner for storage and by whom and the registration number thereof if any number plates are on such motor vehicle, which notice shall be placed on file by the commissioner and shall be subject to public inspection. The fee for filing such notice shall be five dollars. Any sale under the provisions of this section shall be void, unless the notice required by this section has been given to the commissioner.
- Sec. 23. Section 14-163d of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1*, 2014):
- (a) At least once every year, each owner of a motor vehicle described in subsection (a) of section 14-163c shall file with the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles evidence that the owner has in effect the security requirements imposed by law for each such motor vehicle. The evidence shall be filed in such form as the commissioner prescribes in accordance with a schedule established by the commissioner.
- 502 (b) The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles may establish a system to 503 verify, by means of electronic communication, that an owner of a 504 motor vehicle described in subsection (a) of section 14-163c has the

security requirements imposed by law. If the commissioner uses such system to make an inquiry to any insurance company that is licensed to issue automobile liability insurance in this state, or to any data source maintained by the United States Department of Transportation pursuant to the provisions of Title 49, Part 387 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended, the commissioner may accept the results of such inquiry in lieu of a filing by the owner pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, for the period for which such filing is required.

- (c) When the owner of a motor vehicle files evidence under subsection (a) of this section or when a company licensed to issue automobile liability insurance in this state provides verification under subsection (b) of this section, the commissioner shall construe such evidence or verification as proof that the owner of a motor vehicle or motor vehicles described in subsection (a) of section 14-163c has insurance coverage of not less than the amounts required under Title 49, Part 387 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended, or any applicable section of chapter 246.
- [(c)] (d) In addition to other penalties provided by law, the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, after notice and opportunity for hearing in accordance with chapter 54, shall suspend the registration of each motor vehicle registered in the name of any owner who fails to file a motor carrier identification report or to provide satisfactory evidence of the security requirements imposed by law.
- [(d)] (e) Each filing made in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section by each for-hire motor carrier or private motor carrier of property or passengers, and each owner of any motor vehicle that transports hazardous materials, as described in subsection (a) of section 14-163c, shall provide satisfactory evidence of insurance coverage or other security in amounts not less than are required by the provisions of Title 49, Part 387 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended. Such requirement concerning the amount of security that must be evidenced to the commissioner may be made applicable by the commissioner to the initial registration of any such motor vehicle,

including the registration of any motor vehicle under the International Registration Plan, in accordance with the provisions of section 14-34a.

- Sec. 24. Subsection (a) of section 14-166 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
- 543 (a) The acquisition of a certificate of title shall not be required and 544 the issuance of a certificate of title by the Commissioner of Motor 545 Vehicles shall not be required for the following: (1) A vehicle owned 546 by the United States, unless it is registered in this state; (2) a vehicle 547 owned by a manufacturer or dealer and held for sale, even though 548 incidentally moved on the highway or used for purposes of testing or 549 demonstration; or a vehicle used by a manufacturer solely for testing; 550 (3) a vehicle owned by a nonresident of this state and not required by 551 law to be registered in this state; (4) a vehicle regularly engaged in the 552 interstate transportation of persons or property for which a currently 553 effective certificate of title has been issued in another state; (5) a vehicle 554 moved solely by animal power; (6) an implement of husbandry; (7) 555 special mobile equipment; (8) a self-propelled wheel chair or invalid 556 tricycle; (9) any trailer having a gross weight not in excess of three 557 thousand pounds; (10) any vehicle for which a temporary registration 558 has been issued pursuant to section 14-12 for the purpose of permitting 559 a nonresident owner who purchases a vehicle in Connecticut to 560 transport such vehicle to such owner's home state; (11) a motor vehicle 561 owned by the state or any town, city or borough within the state; (12) a 562 motor vehicle registered temporarily for inspection purposes pursuant 563 to section 14-12; (13) a motor vehicle older than twenty model years 564 old, for which the commissioner may issue a certificate of title in said 565 commissioner's discretion. [The acquisition of a certificate of title for 566 any vehicle manufactured prior to 1981 shall not be required. The 567 commissioner, in his discretion, may issue such certificate of title for 568 such a vehicle.]
- Sec. 25. Section 14-224 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

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(a) Each [person operating] operator of a motor vehicle who is knowingly involved in an accident which [causes serious physical injury, as defined in section 53a-3, to or results in the death of any other person shall at once stop and render such assistance as may be needed and shall give [his] such operator's name, address and operator's license number and registration number [to the person injured or to any officer or witness to the death [or serious physical injury] of any person, and if such operator of the motor vehicle causing the death [or serious physical injury] of any person is unable to give [his] such operator's name, address and operator's license number and registration number to [the person injured or to] any witness or officer, for any reason or cause, such operator shall immediately report such death [or serious physical injury] of any person to a police officer, a constable, a state police officer or an inspector of motor vehicles or at the nearest police precinct or station, and shall state in such report the location and circumstances of the accident causing the death [or serious physical injury] of any person and [his] such operator's name, address, operator's license number and registration number.

(b) (1) Each [person operating] operator of a motor vehicle who is knowingly involved in an accident which causes serious physical injury, as defined in section 53a-3, to any other person [or injury or damage to property] shall at once stop and render such assistance as may be needed and shall give [his] such operator's name, address and operator's license number and registration number to the person injured [or to the owner of the injured or damaged property,] or to any officer or witness to the <u>serious</u> physical injury to person. [or injury or damage to property, and if] If such operator of the motor vehicle causing the serious physical injury of any person [or injury or damage to any property] is unable to give [his] <u>such operator's</u> name, address and operator's license number and registration number to the person injured or [the owner of the property injured or damaged, or] to any witness or officer, for any reason or cause, such operator shall immediately report such serious physical injury of any person [or injury or damage to property] to a police officer, a constable, a state

police officer or an inspector of motor vehicles or at the nearest police precinct or station, and shall state in such report the location and circumstances of the accident causing the <u>serious</u> physical injury of any person [or the injury or damage to property and his] <u>and such operator's</u> name, address, operator's license number and registration number.

(2) Each operator of a motor vehicle who is knowingly involved in an accident that causes physical injury, as defined in section 53a-3, to any other person shall at once stop and render such assistance as may be needed and shall give such operator's name, address and operator's license number and registration number to the person injured or to any officer or witness to the physical injury. If such operator of the motor vehicle causing the physical injury is unable to give such operator's name, address and operator's license number and registration number to the person injured or to any witness or officer, for any reason or cause, such operator shall immediately report such physical injury of any person to a police officer, a constable, a state police officer or an inspector of motor vehicles or at the nearest police precinct or station, and shall state in such report the location and circumstances of the accident causing the physical injury of any person and such operator's name, address, operator's license number and registration number.

(3) Each operator of a motor vehicle who is knowingly involved in an accident that causes injury or damage to property shall at once stop and render such assistance as may be needed and shall give such operator's name, address and operator's license number and registration number to the owner of the injured or damaged property, or to any officer or witness to the injury or damage to property, and if such operator of the motor vehicle causing the injury or damage to any property is unable to give such operator's name, address and operator's license number and registration number to the owner of the property injured or damaged, or to any witness or officer, for any reason or cause, such operator shall immediately report such injury or damage to property to a police officer, a constable, a state police officer or an inspector of motor vehicles or at the nearest police precinct or

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639 station, and shall state in such report the location and circumstances of

- 640 the accident causing the injury or damage to property and such
- operator's name, address, operator's license number and registration
- 642 <u>number.</u>
- (c) (1) No person shall operate a motor vehicle upon any public
- highway for a wager or for any race or for the purpose of making a
- speed record.
- (2) No person shall (A) possess a motor vehicle under circumstances
- 647 manifesting an intent that it be used in a race or event prohibited
- under subdivision (1) of this subsection, (B) act as a starter, timekeeper,
- 649 judge or spectator at a race or event prohibited under subdivision (1)
- of this subsection, or (C) wager on the outcome of a race or event
- prohibited under subdivision (1) of this subsection.
- (d) Each person operating a motor vehicle who is knowingly
- 653 involved in an accident on a limited access highway which causes
- damage to property only shall immediately move or cause his motor
- vehicle to be moved from the traveled portion of the highway to an
- one of the accident site if it is possible to
- move the motor vehicle without risk of further damage to property or
- 658 injury to any person.
- (e) No person who acts in accordance with the provisions of
- 660 subsection (d) of this section may be considered to have violated
- 661 <u>subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of this section.</u>
- (f) Any person who violates the provisions of subsection (a) or
- subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section shall be fined not more
- than ten thousand dollars or be imprisoned not less than one year nor
- more than ten years or be both fined and imprisoned.
- 666 (g) Any person who violates the provisions of <u>subdivision</u> (2) or (3)
- of subsection (b) of this section or subsection (c) of this section shall be
- 668 fined not less than seventy-five dollars nor more than six hundred
- dollars or be imprisoned not more than one year or be both fined and

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imprisoned, and for any subsequent offense shall be fined not less than one hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars or imprisoned not more than one year or be both fined and imprisoned.

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- (h) In addition to any penalty imposed pursuant to subsection (g) of this section: (1) If any person is convicted of a violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section and the motor vehicle being operated by such person at the time of the violation is registered to such person, the court may order such motor vehicle to be impounded for not more than thirty days and such person shall be responsible for any fees or costs resulting from such impoundment; or (2) if any person is convicted of a violation of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of this section and the motor vehicle being operated by such person at the time of the violation is not registered to such person, the court may fine such person not more than two thousand dollars, and for any subsequent offense may fine such person not more than three thousand dollars.
- Sec. 26. Section 14-282a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):
- 688 [(a)] The Commissioner of Motor Vehicles shall [establish eight 689 inspection districts] assign the necessary number of inspectors for the 690 purpose of maintaining a system of continuing inspection of school 691 buses and student transportation vehicles, investigation of accidents 692 involving school buses and student transportation vehicles and 693 investigation of complaints against the owners and drivers of school 694 buses and student transportation vehicles, and to coordinate the 695 various school bus safety programs.
- [(b) The commissioner is authorized to add six inspectors to the present staff in order to carry out the provisions of this section.]
- Sec. 27. Section 49-61 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2014*):
- 700 (a) The owner of any personal property which is held by one who

claims to be a bailee for hire of that personal property and to have a lien in consequence thereof, or anyone having a legal or equitable interest in that property, may apply in writing to any judge of the Superior Court, within whose jurisdiction that personal property is held or the lienor resides, to dissolve the lien upon the substitution of a bond with surety.

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(b) If the property is a motor vehicle and if no application that the lien be dissolved upon such substitution of a bond is made within thirty days of the date of the completion of the work upon the property by the bailor for hire, the bailee shall <u>immediately</u> send a written notice to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, stating the Jengine number and chassis] vehicle identification number thereof, the date the motor vehicle was left with such bailee, the date the work was completed, the amount for which a lien is claimed, the registration thereof if any number plates are on the motor vehicle and the name of the owner or person who authorized the work to be done, and shall enclose a fee of five dollars. Such notice shall be placed on file by the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles and be open to public inspection. Except for the thirtyday period immediately following completion of the work on such motor vehicle, the commissioner may limit the number of days that a bailee may charge for the storage of the motor vehicle prior to the time that the bailee files such notice with the commissioner unless the bailee provides evidence to the commissioner sufficient to show that the storage charges accrued as a result of the bailee's reliance upon statements or representations made by the bailor or as the result of the bailee's good faith efforts to negotiate the return of such motor vehicle to the bailor. If the motor vehicle is subject to a security interest, the commissioner, within ten days of receipt of such notice, shall send the bailee the name and address of any lienholder as recorded on the certificate of title. Within ten days of receipt of such information relative to any lienholder, the bailee shall mail written notice to each lienholder [in a registered or certified letter, postage paid] by certified mail, return receipt requested, stating that the motor vehicle is being held by such bailee and has a lien upon it for repair and storage

charges. Any sale under the provisions of this section shall be void unless the notice required in this section has been given to said commissioner, if the property is a motor vehicle.

- (c) If no application for such dissolution of the lien has been made by the bailor for hire within three months from the date of completion of the work upon the property, or if the property has not been replevied, the bailee may sell the property at public auction for cash at his place of business and apply the proceeds of the sale, first toward the payment of the debt or obligation owing to him and second toward the payment of any balance due on any conditional bill of sale held on the property.
- (d) The sale shall be advertised, in a newspaper published or having a circulation in the town where the bailee's place of business is situated, three times, commencing at least ten days before the sale and, if the last usual place of abode of the bailor is known to or may reasonably be ascertained by the bailee, notice of the time and place of sale shall be given by mailing the notice to him [in a registered or certified letter, postage prepaid] by certified mail, return receipt requested, at least ten days before the time of the sale, and similar notice shall be given to any officer who has placed an attachment on the property and, if the property is a motor vehicle, any lienholder.
- (e) The proceeds of such sale, after the payment of the amount owing to the bailee and all expense connected with the sale and of any balance due on any conditional bill of sale, shall be paid to any officer who has placed an attachment on the property and be held by that officer in the same manner as though such moneys had been originally attached. If there has been no attachment, the balance shall be paid to the owner of the property or his legal representatives, if called for or claimed by him or them at any time within one year from the date of the sale, and, if the balance is not claimed or called for as aforesaid within said period, it shall escheat to the state.

Sec. 28. Subsection (a) of section 14-280 of the general statutes is

repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July* 768 1, 2014):

- (a) When a school bus is used for any purpose other than the transportation of children to and from schools or school activities, private or public camps or any other activities for which groups of children are transported, the special signals normally used when so engaged shall be left unused or disconnected. Any student transportation vehicle when engaged in the transportation of children to and from private or public camps or the transportation exclusively of children to activities, except school activities, may display a sign or signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section. Any motor vehicle, other than a registered school bus, not owned by a public, private or religious school, or under contract to such school, when engaged in the transportation of school children to and from school or school activities, may display a sign or signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section. Any student transportation vehicle, when engaged in the transportation of school children to and from school or school activities, shall display a sign or signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section. Any portable signs, as described in subsection (b) of this section, that are permitted or required under this section [shall] may be removed or covered when the vehicle is not being used for the purposes requiring or allowing the use of such signs as specified in this section.
- Sec. 29. Subsection (b) of section 14-44 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
 - (b) No operator's license bearing an endorsement shall be issued or renewed in accordance with the provisions of this section or section 14-36a, until the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or the commissioner's authorized representative, is satisfied that the applicant is a proper person to receive such an operator's license bearing an endorsement, holds a valid motor vehicle operator's license, or, if necessary for the class of vehicle operated, a commercial driver's license and is at least

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eighteen years of age. Each applicant for an operator's license bearing an endorsement or the renewal of such a license shall furnish the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles, or the commissioner's authorized representative, with satisfactory evidence, under oath, to prove that such person has no criminal record and has not been convicted of a violation of subsection (a) of section 14-227a within five years of the date of application and that no reason exists for a refusal to grant or renew such an operator's license bearing an endorsement. Each applicant for such an operator's license bearing an endorsement shall submit with the application proof satisfactory to the Commissioner of Motor Vehicles that such applicant has passed a physical examination administered not more than ninety days prior to the date of application, and which is in compliance with safety regulations established from time to time by the United States Department of Transportation. Each applicant for renewal of such license shall present evidence that such applicant is in compliance with the medical qualifications established in 49 CFR 391, as amended, provided an applicant for a Class D operator's license bearing an endorsement described in subsection (c) of section 14-36a shall be deemed medically qualified if such applicant (1) controls with medication, as certified by a licensed physician, a medical condition that would otherwise deem such applicant not medically qualified, and (2) would qualify for a waiver or exemption under 49 CFR 391, as amended. Each applicant for such an operator's license bearing an endorsement shall be fingerprinted before the license bearing an endorsement is issued.

Sec. 30. Subsection (g) of section 13b-59 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(g) "Motor vehicle related fines, penalties or other charges" means all fines, penalties or other charges required by, or levied pursuant to subsection (a) of section 14-12, except for subdivision (2) of said subsection (a), sections [14-12s,] 14-13, 14-16, 14-17, 14-18, 14-26, 14-27 and 14-29, subsection (d) of section 14-35 and sections 14-36, as amended by this act, 14-39, 14-43, 14-45, 14-64, 14-80, 14-81, 14-97,

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834 14-98, 14-99, 14-101, 14-102, 14-103, 14-104, 14-105, 14-106, 14-110,

- 835 14-111, as amended by this act, 14-112, 14-137a, 14-140, 14-145, as
- 836 <u>amended by this act,</u> 14-146, 14-147, 14-148, 14-149, 14-150, <u>as amended</u>
- 837 by this act, 14-151, 14-152, 14-161, subsection (f) of section 14-164i,
- 838 14-196, 14-197, 14-198, 14-213, 14-214, 14-215, 14-216, 14-217, 14-218a,
- 839 14-219, 14-220, 14-221, 14-222, 14-223, 14-224, as amended by this act,
- 840 14-225, 14-226, as amended by this act, 14-228, 14-230, 14-231, 14-232,
- 841 14-233, 14-234, 14-235, 14-236, 14-237, 14-238, 14-239, 14-240, 14-241,
- 842 14-242, 14-243, 14-244, 14-245, 14-246a, 14-247, 14-249, 14-250, 14-257,
- 843 14-260, 14-261, 14-262, 14-264, 14-267a, 14-269, subsection (g) of section
- 844 14-270, sections 14-271, 14-273, 14-274, 14-275, 14-276, 14-277, 14-280, <u>as</u>
- 845 amended by this act, 14-281, 14-282, 14-283, 14-285, 14-286, 14-295,
- 846 14-296, 14-300, 14-314, 14-329, 14-331, 14-342, 14-386, 14-386a, 14-387,
- 847 15-7, 15-8, 15-9, 15-25 and 15-33;
- Sec. 31. Subsection (b) of section 14-111 of the general statutes is
- 849 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (Effective
- 850 *October* 1, 2014):

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- (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) or (3) of this subsection,
- whenever the holder of any motor vehicle operator's license has been
- 853 convicted or has forfeited any bond taken or has received a suspended
- 854 judgment or sentence for any of the following violations, the
- commissioner shall, without hearing, suspend such person's operator's
- license or privilege to operate a motor vehicle in this state as follows:

 For a first violation of subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b)
- For a first violation of subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b)
- 858 of section 14-224, as amended by this act, or section 14-110, 14-215 or
- 859 53a-119b, for a period of not less than one year and, for a subsequent
- violation thereof, for a period of not less than two years; for a violation
- of subsection (a) of section 14-222 or subsection (c) of section 14-224, <u>as</u>
- 862 <u>amended by this act,</u> for a period of not less than thirty days or more
- than ninety days and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period
- of not less than ninety days; for a violation of <u>subdivision (2) or (3) of</u>
- subsection (b) of section 14-224, as amended by this act, for a period of
- 866 not less than ninety days and for a subsequent violation thereof, for a
- period of not less than one year; for a first violation of subsection (b) of

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section 14-147, for a period of not less than ninety days and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of not less than five years; for a first violation of subsection (c) of section 14-147, for a period of not less than thirty days and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of not less than one year.

- (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 14-111b and except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, whenever the holder of any motor vehicle operator's license or youth instruction permit who is less than eighteen years of age or whenever a person who does not hold an operator's license who is less than eighteen years of age has been convicted or has forfeited any bond taken or has received a suspended judgment or sentence for any of the following violations, the commissioner shall suspend such person's operator's license or privilege to obtain an operator's license as follows: For a first violation of subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of section 14-219 or subdivision (4) of subsection (b) of section 14-219, for a period of sixty days and, for a second violation thereof, for a period of ninety days and, for a third or subsequent violation thereof, for a period of six months; for a first violation of subsection (a) of section 14-222, for a period of six months and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of one year; for a violation of subsection (c) of section 14-224, as amended by this act, for a period of six months and, for a subsequent violation thereof, for a period of one year; for a first violation of section 14-296aa, for a period of thirty days and, for a second violation thereof, for a period of ninety days and, for a third or subsequent violation thereof, for a period of six months.
- (3) The commissioner shall suspend the motor vehicle operator's license of any youth adjudged a youthful offender for a violation of section 14-215 or 14-222, subsection (b) of section 14-223 or <u>subdivision</u> (2) or (3) of subsection (b) or <u>subsection</u> (c) of section 14-224, as <u>amended by this act</u>, for six months for a first offense and one year for a second or subsequent offense.
- 900 (4) Whenever any person who has not been issued a motor vehicle

901 operator's license under section 14-36, as amended by this act, is 902 convicted of a second or subsequent violation of subsection (a) of 903 section 14-36, as amended by this act: (A) The commissioner shall 904 suspend such person's privilege to operate a motor vehicle, (B) such 905 suspension shall remain in effect for a period of ninety days, and (C) 906 the commissioner shall not issue an operator's license to such person 907 under section 14-36, as amended by this act, until such period of 908 suspension has expired and all applicable requirements for such 909 license have been satisfied by such person.

- 910 Sec. 32. Section 14-226 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
- 912 Any person who has knowledge of causing, by the operation of a 913 motor vehicle, injury or death to a dog shall at once stop and render 914 such assistance as may be possible, shall immediately report such 915 injury or death to such dog's owner or such owner's representative and 916 shall give his name, address and operator's license and registration 917 numbers to such owner or representative or any witness or peace 918 officer. If unable to ascertain and locate such owner or representative, 919 such operator shall, at once, report the injury or death to a police 920 officer, constable, state police officer or inspector of motor vehicles, to 921 whom he shall give the location of such accident and a description of 922 the dog. Violation of any provision of this section shall be an 923 infraction. No operator shall be convicted under the provisions of 924 subdivision (3) of subsection (b) of section 14-224, as amended by this 925 act, when such operator has caused injury or death to a dog.
- 926 Sec. 33. Subsection (c) of section 38a-806 of the general statutes is 927 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* 928 October 1, 2014):
- 929 (c) Each policy in force under a mass marketing plan on or before 930 October 1, 1999, shall be eligible for issue on a guaranteed issue basis 931 for one year after October 1, 1999, except if the applicant has been 932 convicted of violating any provision of subsection (d) of section 14-12,

section 14-43, 14-222 or 14-222a, or subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 14-224, as amended by this act, or 14-227a within three years of the applicant's application, or convicted within three years of the applicant's application of operating a motor vehicle while the applicant's operator's license was suspended or revoked.

- 938 Sec. 34. Subsection (b) of section 54-56e of the 2014 supplement to 939 the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu 940 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
- 941 (b) The court may, in its discretion, invoke such program on motion 942 of the defendant or on motion of a state's attorney or prosecuting 943 attorney with respect to a defendant (1) who, the court believes, will 944 probably not offend in the future, (2) who has no previous record of 945 conviction of a crime or of a violation of section 14-196, subsection (c) 946 of section 14-215, section 14-222a, subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of 947 subsection (b) of section 14-224, as amended by this act, or section 14-948 227a, and (3) who states under oath, in open court or before any person 949 designated by the clerk and duly authorized to administer oaths, 950 under the penalties of perjury, that the defendant has never had such 951 program invoked in the defendant's behalf or, with respect to a 952 defendant who is a veteran, that the defendant has not had such 953 program invoked in the defendant's behalf more than once previously, 954 provided the defendant shall agree thereto and provided notice has 955 been given by the defendant, on a form approved by rule of court, to 956 the victim or victims of such crime or motor vehicle violation, if any, 957 by registered or certified mail and such victim or victims have an 958 opportunity to be heard thereon. Any defendant who makes 959 application for participation in such program shall pay to the court an 960 application fee of thirty-five dollars. For the purposes of this section, 961 "veteran" means a person who is (A) a veteran, as defined in 962 subsection (a) of section 27-103, or (B) eligible to receive services from 963 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs pursuant to Title 38 964 of the United States Code.

965 Sec. 35. Subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 54-76b of the

general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

- (2) "Youthful offender" means a youth who (A) is charged with the commission of a crime which is not a class A felony or a violation of section 14-222a, subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 14-224, as amended by this act, section 14-227a or 14-227g, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53-21 or section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a or 53a-72b, except a violation involving consensual sexual intercourse or sexual contact between the youth and another person who is thirteen years of age or older but under sixteen years of age, and (B) has not previously been convicted of a felony in the regular criminal docket of the Superior Court or been previously adjudged a serious juvenile offender or serious juvenile repeat offender, as defined in section 46b-120.
- Sec. 36. Subsection (a) of section 54-76c of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective* October 1, 2014):
 - (a) In any case where an information or complaint has been laid charging a defendant with the commission of a crime, and where it appears that the defendant is a youth, such defendant shall be presumed to be eligible to be adjudged a youthful offender and the court having jurisdiction shall, but only as to the public, order the court file sealed, unless such defendant (1) is charged with the commission of a crime which is a class A felony or a violation of section 14-222a, subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 14-224, as amended by this act, section 14-227a or 14-227g, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53-21 or section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a or 53a-72b, except a violation involving consensual sexual intercourse or sexual contact between the youth and another person who is thirteen years of age or older but under sixteen years of age, or (2) has been previously convicted of a felony in the regular criminal docket of the Superior Court or been previously adjudged a serious juvenile offender or serious juvenile repeat

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offender, as defined in section 46b-120. Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, upon motion of the prosecuting official, the court may order that an investigation be made of such defendant under section 54-76d, for the purpose of determining whether such defendant is ineligible to be adjudged a youthful offender, provided the court file shall remain sealed, but only as to the public, during such investigation.

- Sec. 37. Subsection (a) of section 54-76*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
- 1009 (a) The records or other information of a youth, other than a youth 1010 arrested for or charged with the commission of a crime which is a class 1011 A felony or a violation of section 14-222a, subsection (a) or subdivision 1012 (1) of subsection (b) of section 14-224, as amended by this act, section 1013 14-227a or 14-227g, subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of section 53-21 or 1014 section 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-70b, 53a-71, 53a-72a or 53a-72b, except a 1015 violation involving consensual sexual intercourse or sexual contact 1016 between the youth and another person who is thirteen years of age or 1017 older but under sixteen years of age, including fingerprints, 1018 photographs and physical descriptions, shall be confidential and shall 1019 not be open to public inspection or be disclosed except as provided in 1020 this section, but such fingerprints, photographs and physical 1021 descriptions submitted to the State Police Bureau of Identification of 1022 the Division of State Police within the Department of Emergency 1023 Services and Public Protection at the time of the arrest of a person 1024 subsequently adjudged, or subsequently presumed or determined to 1025 be eligible to be adjudged, a youthful offender shall be retained as 1026 confidential matter in the files of the bureau and be opened to 1027 inspection only as provided in this section. Other data ordinarily 1028 received by the bureau, with regard to persons arrested for a crime, 1029 shall be forwarded to the bureau to be filed, in addition to such 1030 fingerprints, photographs and physical descriptions, and be retained in 1031 the division as confidential information, open to inspection only as 1032 provided in this section.

Sec. 38. Subsection (i) of section 54-76*l* of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):

- 1036 (i) The records of any youth adjudged a youthful offender for a 1037 violation of section 14-215 or 14-222, subsection (b) of section 14-223 or 1038 subdivision (2) or (3) of subsection (b) or subsection (c) of section 14-1039 224, as amended by this act, shall be disclosed to the Department of 1040 Motor Vehicles for administrative use in determining whether 1041 suspension of such person's motor vehicle operator's license is 1042 warranted. Such records disclosed pursuant to this subsection shall not 1043 be further disclosed.
- Sec. 39. Subsection (b) of section 54-209 of the 2014 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2014*):
- 1047 (b) The Office of Victim Services or, on review, a victim 1048 compensation commissioner may also order the payment of 1049 compensation in accordance with the provisions of sections 54-201 to 1050 54-233, inclusive, for personal injury or death that resulted from the 1051 operation of a motor vehicle by another person who was subsequently 1052 convicted with respect to such operation for a violation of subsection 1053 (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 14-224, as amended by 1054 this act, or section 14-227a, 53a-56b or 53a-60d. In the absence of a 1055 conviction, the Office of Victim Services or, on review, a victim 1056 compensation commissioner may order payment of compensation 1057 under this section if, upon consideration of all circumstances 1058 determined to be relevant, the office or commissioner, as the case may 1059 be, reasonably concludes that another person has operated a motor 1060 vehicle in violation of subsection (a) or subdivision (1) of subsection (b) 1061 of section 14-224, as amended by this act, or section 14-227a, 53a-56b or 1062 53a-60d.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	from passage	New section
Sec. 2	from passage	14-1
Sec. 3	July 1, 2014	14-12g(b)
Sec. 4	from passage	14-36(b)
Sec. 5	from passage	14-36g(a)(3)
Sec. 6	from passage	14-37a(b)
Sec. 7	from passage	14-41(f)
Sec. 8	October 1, 2014	14-42
Sec. 9	from passage	14-44(d)
Sec. 10	July 1, 2015	14-44e(g)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2014	14-44e
Sec. 12	October 1, 2014	14-44h(a) and (b)
Sec. 13	January 1, 2015	14-50(d)
Sec. 14	July 1, 2014	14-52(b)(4)
Sec. 15	July 1, 2014	14-52a
Sec. 16	July 1, 2014	14-61b
Sec. 17	July 1, 2014	14-62(a)
Sec. 18	from passage	14-63(a)
Sec. 19	October 1, 2014	14-66b
Sec. 20	July 1, 2014	14-73(e)
Sec. 21	July 1, 2014	14-145
Sec. 22	July 1, 2014	14-150(g) to (i)
Sec. 23	October 1, 2014	14-163d
Sec. 24	October 1, 2014	14-166(a)
Sec. 25	October 1, 2014	14-224
Sec. 26	from passage	14-282a
Sec. 27	July 1, 2014	49-61
Sec. 28	July 1, 2014	14-280(a)
Sec. 29	October 1, 2014	14-44(b)
Sec. 30	from passage	13b-59(g)
Sec. 31	October 1, 2014	14-111(b)
Sec. 32	October 1, 2014	14-226
Sec. 33	October 1, 2014	38a-806(c)
Sec. 34	October 1, 2014	54-56e(b)
Sec. 35	October 1, 2014	54-76b(a)(2)
Sec. 36	October 1, 2014	54-76c(a)
Sec. 37	October 1, 2014	54-76l(a)

Sec. 38	October 1, 2014	54-76l(i)
Sec. 39	October 1, 2014	54-209(b)

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 15 \$	FY 16 \$
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Revenue Loss	up to 5,000	up to 7,000
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Revenue	up to 20,000	up to 25,000
	Gain		
Department of Revenue Services	GF - Potential	less than	less than
	Revenue Gain	50,000	50,000
Department of Motor Vehicles	TF - Potential	less than	less than
_	Savings	50,000	50,000

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

A section by section fiscal impact is presented below. The other sections of the bill have no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities because they make technical, clarifying, or conforming changes to current practice or federal regulation.

Section 12 removes the partial year fee for a commercial driver's license (CDL) and is anticipated to result in an annual revenue loss to the Special Transportation Fund (STF) of \$6,000. This estimate is based on: (1) the cost of the fee at \$17.50 and (2) 348 partial year fee payments in FY 13.

Section 13 allows the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to establish procedures for issuing an expedited motor vehicle driver's license and collect up to \$75 per transaction. This is anticipated to result in a potential revenue gain to the STF of less than \$1,000. Few transactions are anticipated.

Section 15 prohibits DMV from granting or renewing a motor vehicle dealer's license that is delinquent in paying sales tax for any business. This may result in a revenue loss to the STF in lost registration fees from dealers that have outstanding delinquent taxes. To the extent that this provision results in the payment of delinquent taxes then the state would experience a revenue gain.

Section 16 requires licensed motor vehicle repairers to produce records to DMV within 24 hours. This may result in a potential revenue gain to the STF of less than \$10,000 for increased violations for non-compliance with DMV regulations. It is anticipated few violations will occur. The fee for each violation is \$1,000.

Section 18 eliminates a provision requiring DMV to mail regulation changes to licensed motor vehicle dealers. This is anticipated to result in a potential savings to DMV dependent on the amount of regulations that need to be mailed annually. The cost to mail a regulation to all licensed motor vehicle dealers is approximately \$2,100.

Section 19 requires licensed motor vehicle dealers to produce records within 24 hours. This may result in a potential revenue gain to the STF of less than \$10,000 for increased violations for non-compliance with DMV regulations. It is anticipated few violations will occur. The fee for each violation is \$1,000.

Section 21 makes procedural changes to statute regarding vehicles towed from private property and is anticipated to result in a potential revenue gain to the STF of \$500. It is anticipated that few violations will occur.

Section 29 requires DMV under certain circumstances to renew a non-commercial license with a passenger endorsement for any person who has been disqualified due to a medical condition. This may result in a revenue gain to the STF of less than \$1,000. It is anticipated few cases will occur.

House "A" struck the language of the underlying bill and became

the fiscal impact described above.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis sHB 5290 (as amended by House "A")*

AN ACT REVISING MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS.

SUMMARY:

This bill makes a number of changes to the motor vehicle laws. Among other things, it:

- 1. requires police to report to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) the arrest on certain charges of a person whose driver's license allows him or her to transport members of the public (§ 9);
- 2. allows DMV to develop an expedited licensing procedure for which it may charge up to \$75 (§ 13);
- 3. requires police, within 48 hours of being notified that a vehicle has been towed from private property, to enter the information into national and state databases to learn if the vehicle was reported stolen (§ 21);
- 4. allows someone whose noncommercial driver's license allows him or her to carry passengers (e.g., taxi driver or student transportation vehicle driver) to renew his or her license if he or she is controlling an otherwise disqualifying medical condition with medication and is eligible for a waiver or exemption under federal regulations (§ 29);
- 5. makes a number of changes to commercial driver's license (CDL) laws, including (a) requiring CDL holders to retake driving and written tests if the commissioner suspects they obtained a CDL fraudulently, and (b) eliminating the \$17.50 partial-year fee for CDLs (§§ 10-11);

6. bars the commissioner from issuing or renewing a dealer's or repairer's license if the Department of Revenue Services reports the applicant or licensee is delinquent in paying sales taxes (§ 15);

- 7. requires the commissioner to assign as many motor vehicle inspectors as she needs to inspect school buses and investigate accidents and complaints involving them, rather than to create eight inspection districts and add six inspectors for these purposes (§ 26);
- 8. allows, with certain exceptions, the commissioner to limit the number of days for which a garage may charge a motor vehicle owner for storing the vehicle (§ 27); and
- 9. requires licensed motor vehicle dealers and repairers to produce their records, at DMV's request, during business hours on the day DMV requests them, rather than within three business days (§§ 16 & 19).

It makes other changes to laws affecting garage owners, wrecker owners, licensed motor vehicle dealers and repairers, and student transportation vehicles (STVs). It also makes technical and conforming changes, including reorganizing the law on evading responsibility and illegal racing.

*House Amendment "A" replaces the original file. It (1) adds provisions (a) defining "public passenger endorsements" and (b) requiring DMV to ask license and identity card applicants if they consent or decline to be organ donors and (2) makes minor and technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATES: Various, see below.

§ 1 — TAXIS CANNOT BE MORE THAN 10 YEARS OLD

The bill bars DMV from registering a motor vehicle as a taxi if it is more than 10 model years old. Any validly registered taxi that is older

than 10 model years old during its registration period may continue as a taxi until its two-year registration expires.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§§ 2, 5-7 & 9 — PUBLIC PASSENGER ENDORSEMENTS

The bill renames a public passenger transportation permit as a public passenger endorsement. This endorsement allows a license holder to transport passengers, including students, in vehicles specified by law, including school buses, school transportation vehicles, activity vehicles, taxis, and vehicles in livery service. It makes conforming changes in statutes that, among other things, (1) bar 16-and 17-year-old drivers from holding such an endorsement and (2) prohibit DMV from issuing a special operator's permit to anyone for operating a vehicle requiring such an endorsement.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 3 — REGISTRATION CONSENT AGREEMENTS

By law, the DMV commissioner may enter into a consent agreement with a motor vehicle owner whose registration she suspended for failing to carry proper insurance if the owner (1) does not contest the determination, (2) shows he or she has obtained insurance, and (3) pays a \$200 penalty. The consent agreement requires that the registration not be suspended, or if already suspended, that the suspension be rescinded.

Under the bill, an owner who showed he or she obtained proper insurance and paid the penalty waives his or her ability to contest a finding that he or she failed to maintain proper insurance, regardless of whether the owner signed a consent agreement when paying the penalty. All of the consent agreement's terms and conditions apply to such an owner.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 4 — ADULT INSTRUCTION PERMIT EXEMPTION

By law, most people age 18 or older learning to drive must (1) obtain an adult instruction permit and (2) hold it for at least 90 days before getting a driver's license. Current law exempts from this 90-day minimum someone who previously held a Connecticut license. The bill broadens the exemption to include people age 18 or older who previously held a driver's license from any jurisdiction.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 8 — ORGAN DONATIONS

Under the bill, DMV must require applicants for driver's licenses or identity cards to indicate whether they consent or decline to be organ donors. Current law allows these applicants the opportunity to become such a donor.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

§ 9 — EXPANDING POLICE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The bill requires police to report to DMV, within 48 hours, the arrest on (1) felony charges or (2) a charge of fourth-degree sexual assault, anyone whose driver's license permits him or her to transport members of the public (e.g., bus driver, taxi driver, or livery service driver). Current law requires police to report such an arrest only for drivers who transport school children.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 10 — COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S INSTRUCTION PERMIT REQIREMENTS

The bill prohibits, starting July 1, 2015, the DMV commissioner from administering a CDL road test unless an applicant has held a commercial driver's instruction permit for at least 14 days. It also makes minor and technical changes to conform state to federal law (for example, making the initial instruction permit and one allowed permit renewal valid for 180 days each, instead of six months each).

Also starting July 1, 2015, the bill requires any holder of a

commercial driver's instruction permit who did not obtain a CDL before his or her renewed permit expired, to retake (1) the CDL written test and (2) any applicable license endorsement written tests.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2015

§ 11 — CONFORMING STATE CDL LAW ON FRAUD TO FEDERAL REGULATIONS

The bill conforms state law to federal CDL regulations regarding fraud and false information (49 CFR § 383.73 (j) and (k)). Under federal law, state CDL laws must be consistent with these regulations.

The bill requires the commissioner to deny, or disqualify for 60 days, a CDL instruction permit or CDL if she finds the applicant or holder gave false information on any certification he or she provided concerning the permit or license application.

If the commissioner suspects an applicant or holder of fraud related to the issuance of a CDL or permit, she must so notify the applicant or holder, who must schedule CDL written and driving tests within 30 days after receiving the notice. If the applicant or holder fails to (1) schedule or (2) pass both tests, his or her permit or license is disqualified, and he or she must reapply. The commissioner must disqualify for one year, from the date of the applicant's or holder's conviction, the permit or license of any applicant or holder convicted of fraud related to the issuance of the permit or license, and the holder or applicant must retake the tests.

By law, if the commissioner finds an applicant or holder supplied false information to obtain a CDL she must not issue the CDL or must suspend it for at least 60 days and until the applicant or holder supplies the correct information (CGS § 14-44f).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

§ 12 — CDL DRIVER HISTORY AND ELMINATING THE CDL PARTIAL-YEAR FEE

The bill eliminates a requirement that someone seeking a first renewal of a CDL provide the commissioner with the names of the states in which he or she has held a driver's license. By law, (1) a driver applying for his or her first CDL must identify any states in which he or she has held a driver's license in the previous 10 years (CGS § 14-44c (a) (8)), and (2) the commissioner must request a renewal applicant's driving history from any state in which the applicant held a license in the preceding 10 years.

The bill eliminates the partial-year fee for CDLs. By law, the fee for a four-year CDL is \$70 (\$17.50 per year). The CDL expires four years following the date of the holder's next birthday. Under current law, DMV may charge an additional \$17.50 for part of a year for applicants whose licenses do not expire until more than four years after they obtain it (e.g., someone who gets a license in January, but whose birthday is in September).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

§ 13 — CREATING AN EXPEDITED LICENSING PROCEDURE

The bill authorizes the commissioner to adopt procedures to issue licenses more quickly, and to charge up to \$75 for the service. It also eliminates a provision requiring the commissioner to waive, at the request of a fire department chief, the test fee for a fire department member who applies for a class 1 operator's license. The state no longer issues these licenses.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2015

§ 14 — RESTRICTING THE USE OF DEALER AND REPAIRER SURETY BONDS

By law, new and used car dealers, repairers, and certain motor vehicle rental firms must furnish a cash or surety bond as indemnity against any loss incurred because (1) of an act by them that constitutes grounds for license suspension or revocation or (2) they went out of business. The bill restricts the use of these bonds to losses incurred by a dealer's, repairer's, or rental firm's customers, rather than anyone so

injured by the dealer, repairer, or rental firm (e.g., a supplier). It explicitly excludes from those entitled to such indemnification any (1) person, firm, or corporation that finances a licensed dealer's motor vehicle inventory and (2) licensed dealer, who, in his or her capacity as a dealer, buys motor vehicles from, or sells motor vehicles to, another licensed dealer.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 15 — REFUSING TO ISSUE OR RENEW A DEALER OR REPAIR LICENSE BECAUSE OF DELINQUENT SALES TAXES

The bill prohibits the commissioner, after notice and a hearing, from granting or renewing a motor vehicle dealer or repairer license to a license applicant or licensee the Department of Revenue Services reports is delinquent in paying sales taxes for any business from which the payment was required.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 16 — SAME-DAY PRODUCTION OF DEALER AND REPAIRER RECORDS

The bill allows licensed motor vehicle repairers, at DMV's discretion, to keep their records, forms, and documents in electronic form, as the law already allows licensed motor vehicle dealers to do. It requires these dealers and repairers to produce these records, forms, and documents in written form, at DMV's request, during business hours on the day DMV requests them. Current law gives dealers and repairers three business days to produce these documents. By law, the commissioner may suspend or revoke the license of, or impose a civil penalty of up to \$1,000 for each violation on, a licensee who fails to (1) comply with DMV's record-keeping requirements or (2) allow DMV to inspect its records (CGS § 14-64).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 17 — SALES ORDERS AND INVOICES TO INCLUDE CERTAIN DEALER INFORMATION

The bill requires sales orders and invoices for the sale of motor vehicles to include the dealer's legal name, address, and license number, in addition to other information the law already requires, such as sale price, finance charges, and dealer conveyance or processing fees.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 18 — CHANGING THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF DEALER REGULATIONS

The bill changes the date that DMV regulations on licensed motor vehicle dealers and repairers take effect. Under current law, these regulations take effect 10 days after a copy of them has been mailed to affected licensees. The bill eliminates this provision, thereby requiring the regulations to take effect when filed with the secretary of the state's office, unless otherwise specified (CGS § 4-172).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 19 — REQUIRING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON TOWS

The bill adds to and replaces some of the information a wrecker owner must keep in its records. It requires the owner to (1) record the registration number of each wrecker used to tow or transport a vehicle and (2) note the wrecker's mileage at the start and end of the tow, instead of the total miles traveled during the tow. The law already requires the owner to provide such other information as the registration number of each vehicle towed and the date and time of the tow.

The bill requires licensed motor vehicle dealers who operate a wrecker service to produce any records, documents, or forms in written form, at DMV's request, during business hours on the same day DMV asks for them. Current law allows the dealers three business days to produce this information. It makes a violation of any of the bill's or law's record-keeping requirements an infraction (see BACKGROUND).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

§ 20 — ELIMINATING CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR NEW DRIVING LICENSE INSTRUCTORS

The bill eliminates a requirement that licensed driving instructors, in the three years after getting their initial license, either (1) attend annual DMV-sponsored traffic safety seminars or (2) take a DMV-approved 45-hour advanced instructor traffic safety course. Under current law, an instructor must prove he or she has complied with this requirement to renew his or her instructor's license.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§§ 21-22 — NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR POLICE AND GARAGES ON VEHICLES TOWED FROM PRIVATE PROPERTY

By law, licensed wreckers must notify local police departments within two hours after towing a motor vehicle from private property, and no wrecker may charge a storage fee for the time before the wrecker owner submits this notification. The bill requires the police, within 48 hours after receiving the notice, to (1) enter the Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) into the National Crime Information Center database and the Connecticut On-Line Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing System to learn if the vehicle has been reported stolen and (2) if it is, immediately notify the police department that reported the theft.

Under the bill, if no one claims a towed vehicle within 48 hours, the licensee or operator of the wrecker or the garage where the vehicle is stored must immediately complete a notice of the tow and mail a copy to the vehicle's owner and all lien holders of record. He or she must send this notification, on a form the DMV commissioner prescribes, by certified mail, return receipt requested. As under current law, someone who violates these laws faces a fine of \$50 for a first offense, which is an infraction. Each subsequent offense is punishable by a fine of between \$50 and \$100, up to 30 days in jail, or both.

By law, the owner or keeper of a garage where a motor vehicle is

stored has a lien on the vehicle for his or her towing and storage charges. The bill provides garage owners more flexibility in obtaining liens, allowing them to obtain such a lien for their towing charges, storage charges, or both. The bill thus allows a garage owner to obtain a lien even if he did not tow the vehicle.

By law, the garage owner may sell the vehicle to recoup these charges after (1) 15 days if the vehicle's market value is \$1,500 or less and (2) 45 days if its value exceeds \$1,500. Current law requires the owner to notify the vehicle owner (if the owner's address is known) and any lien holders of the time and place of sale by registered or certified letter, postage paid, at least five days before the sale. The bill changes the method by which the garage owner must notify the vehicle's owner and lien holders to certified mail, return receipt requested, but retains the five-day notice requirement.

By law, if the vehicle owner does not claim a stored vehicle within 30 days, the garage owner must, within 40 days after placing the vehicle in storage, send the commissioner written notice of the storage, containing certain information. The bill requires the garage owner to include in this information the vehicle's VIN, rather than its engine and chassis numbers.

Finally, the bill authorizes the commissioner to adopt regulations (1) specifying the circumstances in which title to a towed or stored vehicle, or a vehicle both towed and stored, may be transferred to the person, firm, or corporation towing or storing it, and (2) establishing a procedure for that person, firm, or corporation to obtain title to the vehicle.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 23 — DEEMING COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLES INSURANCE COVERAGE SUFFICIENT

The law requires owners of commercial motor vehicles (e.g., large trucks and buses) to annually file evidence with DMV that they have properly insured each such vehicle. The commissioner also may verify

this information through an insurance company. The bill requires the commissioner to accept this evidence or verification as proof that the vehicle owner has insurance coverage in the amounts required by applicable state and federal law (49 CFR § 387).

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

§ 24 — TITLE NOT REQUIRED FOR VEHICLES MORE THAN 20 YEARS OLD

The bill exempts owners of motor vehicles more than 20 model years old from the need to get a title certificate, and allows, but does not require, the commissioner to issue title certificates for these vehicles. Current law requires owners to obtain title certificates for vehicles manufactured since 1981, with some exceptions, and leaves issuance of titles for vehicles manufactured before that date to the commissioner's discretion.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

§§ 25 & 31-39 — REORGANIZING THE LAW ON EVADING RESPONSIBILITY AND RACING

The bill reorganizes state statutes on evading responsibility and racing, dividing them into four subsections according to whether such violations result in (1) death, (2) serious physical injury, (3) physical injury (see BACKGROUND), or (4) property damage, and makes conforming changes. The change is technical; the bill does not change the laws or penalties.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

\S 26 — ASSIGNING DMV INSPECTORS TO INSPECT SCHOOL BUSES

The bill requires the DMV commissioner to assign as many motor vehicle inspectors as she finds necessary to (1) inspect school buses and STVs, (2) investigate (a) accidents involving these vehicles and (b) complaints against school bus and STV owners and drivers, and (3) coordinate various school bus safety programs. It eliminates language

(1) requiring that she establish eight inspection districts and (2) allowing her to add six inspectors, for these purposes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

§ 27 — LIENS BY GARAGE OWNERS

By law, someone whose vehicle is in the custody of a person who holds a lien on it (e.g., a garage owner whose garage has repaired it) may apply in writing to Superior Court to dissolve the lien (and recover the vehicle) if the vehicle owner substitutes a surety bond for the vehicle. Under the bill, if a vehicle owner does not apply for dissolution within 30 days after a garage's work on the vehicle is completed, the garage owner must immediately notify DMV in writing. Current law requires the garage owner to notify DMV, but sets no deadline by which he or she must do so. The bill requires the owner to send DMV, along with other information, the vehicle's VIN, instead of its engine and chassis numbers.

The bill allows a garage owner to charge the vehicle owner for the 30 days' storage immediately following the completion of repairs. But it allows the commissioner to limit the number of days for which a garage owner may charge the vehicle owner for storage between (1) the end of that 30-day period and (2) when the garage owner sends the above notice to DMV. The commissioner may not set such a limit if the garage owner can show that the time accrued because of the garage owner's (1) reliance on the vehicle owner's statements or representations or (2) good faith efforts to negotiate the vehicle's return.

The bill also changes the method by which the garage owner must send certain notices to (1) each lienholder and (2) the vehicle owner. In each case, the bill requires notice to be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, instead of by registered or certified letter, postage paid.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 28 — REMOVING "CARRYING SCHOOL CHILDREN" SIGNS OPTIONAL WHEN NOT TRANSPORTING CHILDREN

By law, an STV (1) must display a sign indicating it is "carrying school children" when it is carrying children to and from school or school activities and (2) may display such a sign when carrying children to and from camps or other non-school activities. Other motor vehicles, except for registered school buses, not owned by a public, private, or religious school, or under contract to such a school, may display such a sign when carrying school children to and from school or school activities.

Under current law, these portable signs must be removed or covered when an STV or other vehicle is not being used for the purposes that require or allow the signs to be displayed. The bill allows, but does not require, that these signs be removed or covered when these vehicles are not being used for such purposes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

§ 29 — MEDICAL QUALIFICATION OF DRIVERS OF CERTAIN PASSENGER VEHICLES

Federal regulations require that drivers (1) hold a CDL to drive commercial motor vehicles (large trucks and buses) and (2) seeking to renew a CDL must provide the state with a current medical certificate, indicating they can safely drive those vehicles. State law requires drivers who do not need a CDL, but only a noncommercial license with certain passenger endorsements (e.g., a taxi or livery driver) to comply with these federal medical requirements (see BACKGROUND).

The bill requires DMV to renew a noncommercial license with such a passenger endorsement for an applicant who (1) is taking medication to control a medical condition that would otherwise disqualify him or her from getting such a license, and (2) would qualify for a waiver or exemption under federal regulations. A licensed physician must certify that the applicant is controlling the medical condition.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2014

§ 30 — ELIMINATING THE SURCHARGE FOR VIN INSPECTION FEES

This bill eliminates a \$5 surcharge on a \$10 administrative fee DMV charges to electronically inspect a VIN. The surcharge goes to the Special Transportation Fund.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND

§ 19 — Infractions

An infraction is not a crime and the fine can be paid by mail without making a court appearance.

§ 25 — Injury and Serious Injury

By law, "physical injury" means impairment of physical condition or pain. "Serious physical injury" means physical injury that creates a substantial risk of death or which causes serious (1) disfigurement, (2) impairment of health, or (3) loss or impairment of the function of any bodily organ (CGS § 53a-3).

§ 29 — Passenger License Endorsements for Noncommercial Licenses

State law allows holders of noncommercial driver's licenses bearing certain endorsements to drive activity vehicles, STVs, taxis, vehicles in livery service, and service or motor buses.

An "F" endorsement allows a driver to carry passengers in a taxi, vehicle in livery service, service bus, or motor bus.

An "A" endorsement allows a driver to carry passengers in an "activity vehicle," as well as in any of the vehicles for which an "F" endorsement is required.

A "V" endorsement authorizes a driver to carry passengers in an STV, as well as in any of the vehicles for which an "A" or "F"

endorsement is required.

By law, (1) an activity vehicle carries students in connection with school-sponsored events and activities, but not to or from school; (2) an STV is a motor vehicle, other than a registered school bus, used to carry students to or from school, school programs, or school-sponsored events; and (3) a service bus is a vehicle, except a vanpool vehicle or school bus, designed and regularly used to carry at least 10 passengers when used in private service without charging an individual passenger a fee (CGS §§ 14-1, 14-36a, and 14-212).

Legislative History

The House referred the bill (File 343) to the Appropriations Committee, which favorably reported a substitute bill removing a provision requiring certain information to be painted on STVs in a color contrasting with the vehicle's background, rather than in black.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Transportation Committee

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Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 32 Nay 0 (03/14/2014)
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Appropriations Committee

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Joint Favorable Substitute
Yea 44 Nay 0 (04/15/2014)
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